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30 July 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Classification and Wage Division
Office of Personnel

SUBJECT : Comment on Certain Interim Qualifications
Standards

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1. At the time of his departure from this Office, [REDACTED] passed on to me the attached group of Interim Qualifications Standards for comment. While I realize that the date of their transmission to him is now almost historical, I am returning them anyway, with the comments I feel are appropriate.

2. Personally, I am always appalled at the sheer inclusiveness of these standards, especially for positions in the lower grade levels. It is difficult to believe that any applicant or employee in these categories could, should or would possess more than a portion of the qualifications and knowledge set forth.

3. However, if you accept the basic premise that this sort of alpha to omega catechization is a necessary adjunct of Government and the classification mechanism, then there is little save an occasional semantic error with which I could differ.

4. This is not to say that, within the confines of what I have said in paragraph 3 above, the entire package is not a workmanlike, thorough job. Perhaps the only thing I am pleading for is a statement somewhere tempering the absoluteness of the qualifications standards; i.e., "the incumbent may be expected to acquire these qualifications during the course of experience on the job, under proper supervision and with adequate training."

[REDACTED]
Special Assistant to the
Deputy Director (Administration)

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Attachments

SA-DD/A:JAC:mrp (30 July 1954)

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